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Message Text

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17
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

SAJ-01 SAM-01 EA-06 ACDA-05 /080 W
---------- 033996
P R 230945Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0841
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5736

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GE, US, UR, FR
SUBJECT:FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON ABRASIMOV

SUMMARY:

DURING THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S RETURN CALL ON SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE GDR ABRASIMOV ON MAY 21, THE MAIN TOPICS DISCUSSED WERE SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT TO WEST BERLIN AND THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. THE FRENCH DCM HAS GIVEN US AN ACCOUNT OF THE RETURN CALL PAID BY HIS AMBASSADOR ON SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE GDR ABRASIMOV ON MAY 21 A SCANT TWO HOURS AFTER SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD CONCLUDED HIS ADDRESS BEFORE THE WEST BERLIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

2. THE SECRETARY'S VISIT.

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ABRASIMOV EXPRESSED HIMSELF AS "COMPLETELY SATISFIED" WITH

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SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECH IN BERLIN, ADDING THAT HE
WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH THE REFERENCES TO THE
QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT AND ITS SIGNATORIES. THAT
SECRETARY KISSINGER SHOULD HAVE ACCEPTED AN INVITATION
TO VISIT WEST BERLIN WAS "NORMAL" AND "NO PROBLEM" TO
THE SOVIET UNION. THE PRESENCE OF FRG FONMIN GENSCHER, HOWEVER,
CONSTITUTED "AN INTOLERABLE INTERFERENCE OF THE FRG IN
BERLIN AFFAIRS. "ABRASIMOV SAID THAT MOSCOW
WILL PROTEST GENSCHER'S PRESENCE IN BERLIN FORMALLY, BUT
GAVE NO INDICATION AS TO WHICH CHANNELS WOULD BE USED.

3. QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT

ABRASIMOV REVIEWED THE HISTORY OF THE QUADRIPARTITE
AGREEMENT AT SOME LENGTH, PLACING EMPHASIS ON SAUVAGNARGUES'
CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE TWO POINTS
THAT ABRASIMOV DREW FROM THIS REVIEW WERE THAT THE
QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT APPLIES TO WEST BERLIN ONLY;
"BERLIN" HAD BEEN THE CAPITAL OF THE GDR
LONG BEFORE THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT. THIS CAPITAL AS
ESTABLISHED IN THE SOVIET SECTOR OF THE CITY,
WHICH NO LONGER EXISTS.

4. VICE PRIME MINISTER TENG'S VISIT TO PARIS

ABRASIMOV NEXT COMMENTED UPON THE RECENT VISIT TO PARIS
OF PRC VICE PRIME MINISTER TENG, SAYING THAT HE KNEW
TENG PERSONALLY AND HAD SEEN HIM IN MOSCOW. ABRASIMOV
SAID IT WAS THE SOVIET REVOLUTION THAT MADE THE
CHINESE REVOLUTION POSSIBLE. HE CHARACTERIZED THE
TENG VISIT AS WITHIN THE SPIRIT OF DETENTE, A SPIRIT
HE STRONGLY FAVORED.

5. FRG/GDR RELATIONS

ABRASIMOV REMARKED BRIEFLY ON THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS
BETWEEN THE FRG/GDR, MAKING THE COMMENT THAT THEY WERE
GOING "IN A GOOD DIRECTION". HE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION
WITH GDR DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER NIER'S RECENT VISITS
TO WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.
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6. 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE-DAY

THE RECENT CELEBRATION IN EAST BERLIN OF THE 30TH
ANNIVERSARY OF V-E DAY HAD GONE WELL, ABRASIMOV SAID.
HE DIRECTED DE CHALVRON'S ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THERE
HAD BEEN "NO/FALSE NOTES" IN ANY OF THE REMARKS MADE
BY VARIOUS SOVIET SPEAKERS DURING THESE CELEBRATIONS.

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ABRASIMOV SAID HE HOPED THE FRENCH HAD OBSERVED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD MADE REFERENCE TO THE ALLIED ROLE IN WORLD WAR II. HE THEN SAID OF THE GDR IN THE CONTEST OF THESE FESTIVITIES THAT "IT HAS BEEN DIFFICULT FOR THOSE WHO CELEBRATE LIBERATION FROM FASCISM NOT TO BE ABLE TO CELEBRATE THE VICTORY OF THE WAR". ABRASIMOV EXPRESSED HIS REGRET AT THE FRENCH DECISION TO DISCONTINUE THE OBSERVANCE OF VE DAY ANNIVERSARIES.

7. COMMENT

AMBASSADOR DE CHALVRON CHARACTERIZED THE ATMOSPHERE OF HIS CALL, WHICH LASTED APPROXIMATELY ONE AND A HALF HOURS, AS FRIENDLY THROUGHOUT. ABRASIMOV'S ATTENTION SEEMED TO BE PRIMARILY ON THE RECENT REMARKS OF THE SECRETARY IN BERLIN, AND THE DIFFICULTIES POSED BY THE PRESENCE THERE OF GENSCHER. COOPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADORS MEETINGS, POLITICAL SITUATION, BERLIN QUADRIPARTITE MATTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BERLIN05736
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750181-0722
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750520/aaaaarwq.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RENCH AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON ABRASIMOV SUMMARY
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, GC, US, UR, FR, (ABRASIMOV), (DE CHALVRON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006